

I rise today in support of H. Res. 1145, which recognizes the 125th anniversary of the University of Arizona.

The University of Arizona attained its charter on March 12, 1891, with the authorization of Arizona's 13th Territorial Assembly. The mission of this new university focused on building a better Arizona through access, quality, and self-discovery. The university's first day of classes commenced on October 1, 1891, with a small group of 32 students from the surrounding region. The school instantly became a symbol of pride for Tucson, Arizona.

From these humble beginnings, the University of Arizona has grown into one of the most prominent universities in the country. The student body contains over 36,000 students, including almost 7,000 graduate students. Students are enrolled in 122 undergraduate degree programs, 217 graduate programs, and three professional schools.

The University of Arizona has gained national accolades for its breakthroughs in science and technology. The university's scientific research and development program, ranked 15th in the Nation by the National Science Foundation, played a leading role in NASA's Phoenix Mars Mission, which led to greater understanding of the red planet.

For all these accomplishments, the University of Arizona is also known for its athletic dominance. The 500 student athletes of the University of Arizona compete in over 19 Division I sports, winning 20 national championships, 37 Pacific Ten titles, including a men's national basketball championship in 1997, and eight softball national titles.

This year, the University of Arizona will celebrate 125 years of providing excellence in education and athletics, cultivating young men and women to become stewards of their community and leaders of the Nation.

Madam Speaker, once again I express my support of the University of Arizona, and wish it and its students future success in all their endeavors. And I thank Representative GIFFORDS for bringing this bill forward. I urge my colleagues to join me in support of this resolution.

I reserve the balance of my time.

Mrs. BIGGERT. Madam Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

I rise today in support of House Resolution 1145, recognizing the University of Arizona's 125 years of dedication to excellence in higher education.

The University of Arizona, located in Tucson, Arizona, was founded in 1885, and first opened its doors to students in 1891. Thirty-two students applied for the first semester, but only six were admitted to the freshman class. The remaining 26 students were enrolled in a specially established prep school, since there were no high schools in the area.

Today, the University of Arizona has 29,719 undergraduate students, 6,962 graduate students, and 1,376 professional and medical students. The uni-

versity is ranked number 16 among all public universities by the National Science Foundation. The university has a three-fold commitment to education, research, and community service, and offers more than 300 undergraduate degrees through 20 colleges and 11 schools.

The university boasts excellent academic programs, but its students also excel in athletics. The university houses 18 NCAA athletic teams. The University of Arizona Wildcats basketball team has reached the NCAA tournament for the last 25 consecutive years.

The women's softball team is among the top programs in the country, and has won eight Women's College World Series.

The University of Arizona is designated as both a land-grant and space-grant institution, and research conducted at the university has led to advances such as the development of Pima cotton and new artificial hearts, and has helped in the building of the largest telescopes in the world. The mission of the university is "to discover, educate, serve, and inspire," and the accomplishments of its students reflect this.

I extend my congratulations to the University of Arizona for 125 years of excellence in higher education, and wish all of its faculty, staff, students, and alumni continued success. I would ask my colleagues to support this resolution, and I thank the gentlelady from Hawaii for being the manager of this bill.

I yield back the balance of my time.

Ms. HIRONO. I join in urging all my colleagues to support this resolution.

I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentlewoman from Hawaii (Ms. HIRONO) that the House suspend the rules and agree to the resolution, H. Res. 1145, as amended.

The question was taken; and the Speaker pro tempore announced that the ayes appeared to have it.

Ms. HIRONO. Madam Speaker, on that I demand the yeas and nays.

The yeas and nays were ordered.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, further proceedings on this question will be postponed.

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CONGRATULATING WINNERS OF VOICE OF DEMOCRACY SCHOLARSHIP

Ms. HIRONO. Madam Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and agree to the resolution (H. Res. 1170) congratulating the winners of the Voice of Democracy national scholarship program.

The Clerk read the title of the resolution.

The text of the resolution is as follows:

H. RES. 1170

Whereas the Voice of Democracy (VOD) scholarship program is an audio-essay con-

test for high school students in grades 9 through 12 that annually provides more than \$3,000,000 in scholarships;

Whereas the Voice of Democracy program is designed to foster patriotism by allowing students the opportunity to voice their opinion in a 3- to 5-minute audio essay based on an annual theme;

Whereas the winners of the 2010 Voice of Democracy contest are selected based on the originality, content, and delivery of their audio essay;

Whereas the Veterans of Foreign Wars has sponsored the Voice of Democracy scholarship program since 1947 and has encouraged students to express patriotism since that time;

Whereas the Voice of Democracy program is closely associated with the Patriots Pen program, a youth-essay writing contest for students in grades 6 through 8;

Whereas the 2009–2010 Voice of Democracy theme is "Does America still have heroes?";

Whereas more than 50,000 American students across the world participated in the Voice of Democracy competition for the 2009–2010 school year; and

Whereas Madison Mullen, Anthony Zendejas IV, and Lena Savell were named the first, second, and third place winners of the 2009–2010 Voice of Democracy scholarship program: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the House of Representatives congratulates the winners of the Voice of Democracy national scholarship program.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentlewoman from Hawaii (Ms. HIRONO) and the gentlewoman from Illinois (Mrs. BIGGERT) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from Hawaii.

GENERAL LEAVE

Ms. HIRONO. Madam Speaker, I request 5 legislative days during which Members may revise and extend and insert extraneous material on House Resolution 1170 into the RECORD.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentlewoman from Hawaii?

There was no objection.

Ms. HIRONO. Madam Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

I rise today to congratulate the winners of the Voice of Democracy national scholarship program. The Voice of Democracy scholarship program was originally created in 1947 and now is an audio essay contest for high school students in grades nine through twelve that annually provides more than \$3 million in scholarships. The winners are high school students from different parts of the country who clearly articulated and creatively presented American democratic values in a national scholarship competition. The first-place winner receives a \$30,000 scholarship that is paid directly to the recipient's American university, college, vocational, or technical school.

Every year, thousands of students participate in the Voice of Democracy scholarship competition. With last year's theme, "Does America still have Heroes?" this competition makes democracy come alive and helps students connect their real-world experience to contemporary issues and events. This type of learning is important not only

for academic purposes, but also for youth civic engagement. Students are able to express their democratic knowledge and responsibilities in a creative art form.

Madam Speaker, I want to congratulate Madison Mullen, Anthony Zendejas IV, and Lena Savell for the first, second, and third place finishes, as well as all the rest of the winners. I hope all students think about the ideals of democracy and how they can contribute to our society. I thank Representative HUNTER for bringing this resolution forward.

I reserve the balance of my time.

Mrs. BIGGERT. I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Madam Speaker, I rise today in support of House Resolution 1170, congratulating the winners of the Voice of Democracy national scholarship program. The Voice of Democracy national scholarship program is an audio essay scholarship contest for American high school students across the world. Students in grades nine through twelve enter the contest by recording an audio essay on a selected theme. Since its beginning, the program has provided more than \$3 million in scholarship funds to student winners. This year alone, \$149,000 in scholarships was awarded to the winners. The Voice of Democracy's national competition is designed to foster patriotism by providing students with the opportunity to voice their opinion on selected themes. The 2009-2010 school year's theme was, "Does America still have Heroes?" America's youth responded with a resounding "yes."

Veterans of Foreign Wars began sponsoring this event in 1947 and also sponsor similar national essay competitions for middle school students. For example, Patriot's Pen encourages American students in grades six through eight to write an essay expressing their views on democracy, based on an annual theme. The VFW's 2.2 million members have fought for America's freedom and continue to give to our Nation through programs such as Voice of Democracy.

The first, second, and third place winners of the 2009-2010 voice of America's national scholarship competition are Madison Mullen, Anthony Zendejas IV, and Lena Savell, respectively. The winners were selected from over 50,000 student entries based on originality, content, and delivery of their audio essays. Finalists were invited here to Washington, D.C., to deliver their oral essays. Participating students' essays described today's heroes in America, and I'm sure that many of these students will grow up to become tomorrow's heroes.

I'd like to congratulate all the winners, finalists, and participants in the Voice of Democracy national scholarship program and thank the VFW for providing students with this opportunity. I'd also like to thank my colleague from California, Congressman DUNCAN HUNTER, for sponsoring this

resolution and thank the gentlelady from Hawaii for managing this bill, and I ask for my colleagues' support.

Having no further speakers, I yield back the balance of my time.

Ms. HIRONO. Once again, I urge all my colleagues to agree to House Resolution 1170, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentlewoman from Hawaii (Ms. HIRONO) that the House suspend the rules and agree to the resolution, H. Res. 1170.

The question was taken.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. In the opinion of the Chair, two-thirds being in the affirmative, the ayes have it.

Ms. HIRONO. Madam Speaker, on that I demand the yeas and nays.

The yeas and nays were ordered.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX and the Chair's prior announcement, further proceedings on this motion will be postponed.

RECOGNIZING 50TH ANNIVERSARY OF WASHINGTON STATE UNIVERSITY HONORS COLLEGE

Ms. HIRONO. Madam Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and agree to the resolution (H. Res. 1163) recognizing Washington State University Honors College for 50 years of excellence.

The Clerk read the title of the resolution.

The text of the resolution is as follows:

H. RES. 1163

Whereas Washington State University Honors College was established in 1960, 70 years after the founding of Washington State University;

Whereas Sidney Hacker, Professor of Mathematics, directed the establishment of the Honors program at Washington State University;

Whereas Washington State University, located in Pullman, Washington, is the State's largest land-grant university and offers more than 200 areas of study;

Whereas the Washington State University Honors College offers an enriched 4-year curriculum to highly able students and provides such students with the opportunity to challenge themselves;

Whereas studies at the Washington State University Honors College promote the six learning goals of the Honors College, including critical and creative thinking, quantitative and symbolic reasoning, information literacy, communication, self in society, and disciplinary knowledge; and

Whereas Washington State University Honors College is one of the most respected programs of its kind nationally: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the House of Representatives recognizes Washington State University Honors College for 50 years of excellence.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentlewoman from Hawaii (Ms. HIRONO) and the gentlewoman from Illinois (Mrs. BIGGERT) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from Hawaii.

GENERAL LEAVE

Ms. HIRONO. Madam Speaker, I request 5 legislative days during which Members may revise and extend and insert extraneous material on House Resolution 1163 into the RECORD.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentlewoman from Hawaii?

There was no objection.

Ms. HIRONO. I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Madam Speaker, I rise today in support of H. Res. 1163, which recognizes Washington State University Honors College for 50 years of excellence. Established in 1960 in Pullman, Washington, Washington State University Honors College is an institution with an enriched curriculum, small classes, a talented and diverse student body with a wealth of abroad opportunities. The 4-year core curriculum is designed to develop each member of the school's academic community to reach his or her full potential, and to lead and serve their local, national, and global communities.

The faculty, staff, and students of the Honors College create a community of learning that values creativity, high standards of scholarship, and achievement. It also fosters independent thinking and intellectual risk-taking, while valuing engagement and responsibility to community.

Many of Washington State University's high-achieving students chose to attend the Honors College because of the school's small class sizes and the curriculum designed around real-life issues. They also seek out the extensive focus on written and oral presentations and the interactive structure of the college's program, which allows students to take ownership for their own learning. Members of the Honors College student body are also encouraged to spend a portion of their academic years studying abroad and to gain proficiency in a second language. During the school's 2008-2009 school year, 34 percent of the Honors College's students studied abroad. The schools entering class of fall 2008 had a remarkable 80 percent of their freshmen class study a language other than English during their first semester at college.

Madam Speaker, once again, I congratulate Washington State University Honors College on 50 years of excellence in education and thank Representative MCMORRIS RODGERS for bringing this resolution forward.

I urge my colleagues to support this resolution, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Mrs. BIGGERT. At this time I yield such time as she may consume to my friend and colleague, the sponsor of this resolution, the gentlewoman from Washington (Mrs. MCMORRIS RODGERS).

Mrs. MCMORRIS RODGERS. I thank the gentlewoman for yielding some time on this resolution. I rise in support of H. Res. 1163, recognizing Washington State University's Honors College for 50 years of excellence. Nestled